

Contact: Jennifer Cole**(615) 862-6733**Jennifer.cole@nashville.gov**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****June 23, 2014*****METRO ARTS ANNOUNCES \$1.9 MILLION IN 2014-2015 GRANT AWARDS***

NASHVILLE, Tenn., June 23, 2014 – The Metropolitan Nashville Arts Commission (Metro Arts) approved \$1,910,200 in Community Arts grants for the 2014-2015 fiscal year, providing 70 different grants to the 48 different nonprofit organizations that were successful in Metro Arts' competitive grant review process.

Metro Arts received more than \$4.3 million in requests, a growing trend that reflects the growth and diversity of arts programming across Davidson County.

"We are extremely thankful to the Metro Council, under the leadership of Budget & Finance Committee Chairman Ronnie Steine, for recognizing the important work our grantees are doing in neighborhoods and schools throughout Davidson County," said Jennifer Cole, Metro Arts' executive director. "Metro Arts continues our focus on increasing access to high-quality arts activities across our community."

The proposals were reviewed by 34 citizen panelists and are funded in four categories: Creation Project Support, Arts Access Project Support, After-School Arts Project Support, and Basic Operating Support. All applicants must meet rigorous artistic, operational and financial standards. Applicants must maintain a public profile of their organization at www.givingmatters.com that is reviewed as part of the grant-making process.

The grantees estimate that they will serve more than 2 million participants through performance, exhibition, new art development, arts demonstration, and arts education for adults and children.

Among the 35 arts organizations awarded Basic Operating Support are the Belcourt Theatre, the Nashville Ballet, Choral Arts Link, Healing Arts Project, Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville and Circle Players. In the Creation category, grants will fund the development of new works of art by Actor's Bridge Ensemble Theatre, Nashville Opera, and Nashville Symphony.

The Arts Access Project Support category, which received the most applications, funds high-quality arts projects that increase arts access for target populations such as seniors, young people, communities of color and people with disabilities.

"Our agency's mission is to make art central to the lives of everyone in our community, and to do that, we must commit our grant funds to those projects that make high-quality art accessible to all Nashvillians regardless of income or background," Cole said.

The Arts Access Project Support grantees include Southern Word, Nashville Children's Theatre and the Oasis Center. After-school Arts Project grants will support arts education enhancement programs that target at-risk youth. These grants were awarded to nine arts-focused and non-arts nonprofits including the Martha O'Bryan Center, TPAC, the YW, and Southern Word. High-quality arts experiences have a proven track-record for improving student academic and behavioral performance, Cole said.

A complete list of FY15 grant awards and other grant program information can be found at nashville.gov/Arts-Commission/Grants. Metro Arts grants are funded through the operational budget of Metro Nashville & Davidson County.

About the Metropolitan Nashville Arts Commission

The Metropolitan Nashville Arts Commission provides leadership that stimulates and advances art and culture to enrich the human experience for the community. More information about grants, training and programs can be found at www.artsnashville.org. Metro Arts is supported, in part, by the Tennessee Arts Commission.

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<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>FY15 AWARD</u>
Basic 1	Cheekwood	\$ 127,500
Basic 1	Country Music Foundation	\$ 127,500
Basic 1	Frist Center for the Visual Arts	\$ 125,500
Basic 1	Nashville Symphony Association	\$ 127,500
Basic 1	Tennessee Performing Arts Center	\$ 127,500
Basic 1	Watkins College of Art, Design & Film	\$ 113,500

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>FY15 AWARD</u>
Basic 2	Belcourt Theater	\$ 126,750
Basic 2	Humanities Tennessee	\$ 30,000
Basic 2	Nashville Ballet	\$ 127,250
Basic 2	Nashville Children's Theatre	\$ 78,750
Basic 2	Nashville Opera Association	\$ 115,750
Basic 2	Tennessee Repertory Theatre	\$ 59,750

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>FY15 AWARD</u>
Basic 3	Actor's Bridge Ensemble Theatre of Nashville, Inc.	\$ 16,489
Basic 3	Asian American Performing Arts Society d/b/a Dance Theatre of Tennessee	\$ 20,000
Basic 3	Global Education Center	\$ 25,391
Basic 3	Nashville Film Festival	\$ 68,132
Basic 3	Nashville in Harmony	\$ 8,818
Basic 3	Nashville Jazz Workshop	\$ 45,620
Basic 3	Senior Center for the Arts	\$ 25,200
Basic 3	Southern Word	\$ 18,900
Basic 3	Street Theatre Company	\$ 16,188
Basic 3	Tennessee Association of Craft Artists	\$ 42,780
Basic 3	The Nashville Shakespeare Festival	\$ 41,633
Basic 3	W.O. Smith/Nashville Community Music School	\$ 67,150

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>FY15 AWARD</u>
Basic 4	ALIAS Chamber Ensemble	\$ 7,612
Basic 4	Blackbird Theater	\$ 6,336
Basic 4	Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville	\$ 4,930
Basic 4	Choral Arts Link, Inc.	\$ 1,535
Basic 4	Circle Players	\$ 10,021
Basic 4	Grand Master Fiddler Championship Inc.	\$ 3,531
Basic 4	Healing Arts Project, Inc.	\$ 6,205
Basic 4	Music for Seniors	\$ 9,795
Basic 4	Nashville Cultural Arts Project	\$ 2,242
Basic 4	Nashville Philharmonic Orchestra	\$ 1,577
Basic 4	Tennessee Women's Theater Project	\$ 9,982

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<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>FY15 AWARD</u>
After-School	Asian American Performing Arts Society d/b/a Dance Theatre of Tennessee	\$ 3,600
After-School	Center for Refugees and Immigrants of Tennessee	\$ 4,100
After-School	Martha O'Bryan Center	\$ 4,600
After-School	Nashville Children's Theatre	\$ 4,200
After-School	Nashville Opera Association	\$ 4,200
After-School	Nashville Symphony Association	\$ 3,900
After-School	Nashville Young Women's Christian Association (The YW)	\$ 4,005
After-School	Southern Word	\$ 4,250
After-School	Tennessee Performing Arts Center	\$ 4,600

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>FY15 AWARD</u>
Arts Access	Actors Bridge Ensemble Theatre of Nashville, Inc.	\$ 3,500
Arts Access	Adventure Science Center	\$ 3,500
Arts Access	Asian American Performing Arts Society d/b/a Dance Theatre of Tennessee	\$ 4,100
Arts Access	Belcourt Theatre, Inc.	\$ 4,000
Arts Access	Boys and Girls Club of Middle Tennessee, Inc.	\$ 3,600
Arts Access	Center for Refugees and Immigrants of Tennessee	\$ 1,087
Arts Access	Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville	\$ 1,980
Arts Access	Choral Arts Link, Inc.	\$ 3,900
Arts Access	Conexión Americas	\$ 4,200
Arts Access	East Nashville Hope Exchange, Inc.	\$ 1,980
Arts Access	Global Education Center	\$ 4,100
Arts Access	Healing Arts Project, Inc.	\$ 4,032
Arts Access	Nashville Children's Theatre	\$ 4,500
Arts Access	Nashville Symphony Association	\$ 4,250
Arts Access	National Museum of African American Music	\$ 3,450
Arts Access	Oasis Center, Inc.	\$ 4,250
Arts Access	Room In The Inn's Campus for Human Development	\$ 3,800
Arts Access	Salama Urban Ministries, Inc.	\$ 4,100
Arts Access	Senior Citizens Inc. dba FiftyForward	\$ 3,300
Arts Access	Southern Word	\$ 4,750
Arts Access	Tennessee Performing Arts Center	\$ 4,200
Arts Access	The American Negro Playwright Theatre, Inc.	\$ 3,150
Arts Access	Watkins College of Art, Design & Film	\$ 4,200

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>FY15 AWARD</u>
Creation	Actor's Bridge Ensemble Theatre of Nashville, Inc.	\$ 13,500
Creation	Nashville Opera Association	\$ 12,000
Creation	Nashville Symphony Association	\$ 16,000

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